

Remarks

Claims 1-29 are pending in the application. Claims 7, 15-17, and 19 are withdrawn. Claims 6, 8-9, 12-13, and 22-26 have been indicated as having allowable subject matter. Claims 1, 3, 7-9, 21, 23, and 25 have been amended. Claims 6 and 22 have been canceled. Reconsideration and re-examination of the application is respectfully requested.

1. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 11, 14, 18, 20, 21, and 27-29 as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,267,787 B1 issued to Capper et al.

Claim 1 has been amended to include all of the claim limitations of dependant claim 6, which has been indicated by the Examiner as being allowable if re-written in independent form to include all the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 6 has been canceled. Because all of the claim limitations of claim 6 and its intervening claims have been added to claim 1, Capper et al. does not teach all of the claim limitations of claim 1. Removal of the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claim 21 has been amended to include all of the claim limitations of dependant claim 22, which has been indicated by the Examiner as being allowable if re-written in independent form to include all the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims, and to better define the claimed subject matter. Claim 22 has been canceled. Because all of the claim limitations of claim 6 and its intervening claims have been added to claim 21, Capper et al. does not teach all of the claim limitations of claim 21. Removal of the rejection of claim 21 is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 7-9, 23, and 25 have been amended to correct claim dependency in view of the foregoing amendments. Claims 2-5, 11, 14, 18, and 20 depend from indendant claim 1. Claims

27-29 depend from independent claim 21. As previously discussed, Capper et al. does not teach all of the claim limitations of claim 1 or claim 21. Capper et al. therefore does not teach all of the claim limitations of claims 2-5, 11, 14, 18, 20, and 27-29. Removal of the rejection of claims 2-5, 11, 14, 18, 20, and 27-29 is respectfully requested.

2. The Examiner has rejected claim 10 as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,267,787 B1 issued to Capper et al.

Claim 10 depends from independent claim 1. As previously discussed, Capper et al. does not teach all of the claim limitations of claim 1. Capper et al. therefore does not teach or suggest all of the claim limitations of claim 10. Removal of the rejection of claim 10 is respectfully requested.

3. The Examiner has objected to claims 6, 8-9, 12-13, and 22-26 as being dependant upon a rejected base claim. As previously discussed claims 6 and 22 have been canceled. Because claims 8-9, 12-13, and 23-26 respectively depend from base claims, which are considered to be in condition for allowance for the foregoing reasons, claims 8-9, 12-13, and 23-26 are also considered to be in condition for allowance.

4. Dependant claims 7, 15-17, and 19 are currently withdrawn. Because claims 7, 15-17, and 19 depend from generic independent claims, which are considered to be in condition for allowance for the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 7, 15-17, and 19 be re-instated and considered by the Examiner.

In view of the amendments presented herein, the application is considered to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and passage to issue is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jm Slonaker", written over a horizontal line.

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